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NEW PROTECTIVE MEASURES

East Germany Arrests 521 Spies

The Government of the German Democratic Republic will take all measures necessary to protect the Republic and its achievements from imperialist attack, it was officially announced in East Berlin on April 13th.

The announcement was made in a Government communique announcing the arrest of hundreds of spies and saboteurs in recent weeks. These spies and saboteurs received their instructions from U.S., British, French and West German organisations in West Berlin.

Here are the main points of the communique:

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic believes it is necessary to inform the entire population that in recent days the State Security Service, with the help of broad sections of the population, has rendered harmless a large number of espionage and terrorist organisations operating in the German Democratic Republic.

"They have arrested a total of 521 agents of American and British secret service organisations, the Gehlen Organisation, and various West Berlin auxiliaries of these organisations, such as the "Fighting Group Against Inhumanity", the "Investigating Committee of Free Jurists", the RIAS (Radio in American Sector), the eastern bureaus of various West Berlin parties, and others.

"Large quantities of espionage and diversion material were seized in the course of the arrests. The material seized included 19 special American-made radio transmitters and receivers, code books and instructions; weapons and ammunition; poison and arson material; special cameras, invisible inks, maps, frog-man outfits, forged passports of various countries, forged ration cards, and large quantities of currency. Large quantities of secret documents were seized or surrendered, giving instructions for the criminal activities of agents in the German Democratic Republic and other countries . . .

"Statements made by the agents arrested and those who have surrendered show clearly that the occupation powers have converted West Berlin into the main base for their espionage and diversion work against the German Democratic Republic. From West Berlin spies, diversionists, provocateurs and terrorists are sent into the German Democratic Republic.

"The West Berlin espionage and sabotage organisations use fraud, threats and provocation to recruit citizens of the German Democratic Republic as their agents . . .

"In the past few months these organisations have attempted to organise sabotage and diversion against important targets in industry, agriculture, transport and trade.

"The State Security Service has arrested the American agent Arno Bade. After completing his studies at the West Berlin Technical High School Bade was sent by the American secret service to work in the building industry of the German Democratic Republic. On February 16th of this year he used arson material supplied by the American secret service to start a big fire in the newly built studios of the State Radio Committee. 14 persons were severely injured in fighting the fire. Similar acts of arson have taken place in various factories, agricultural production cooperatives and machine and tractor stations."

The Government communique then gave details of other spies and saboteurs who had been arrested. They included Ernst Huetter, a leading official in the Government supply department, who had imported unnecessary goods and hindered the import of badly needed materials; Alfred Grossmann and five others who had organised attacks on progressives and committed assorted acts of sabotage and arson; Christian Busch who had received from the American secret service large numbers of forged ration cards, and many others.

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(cont. from front page)

MEASURES TO PROTECT EAST GERMANY

The communique then continued:

"Investigations show that the American, British and West German espionage centres organised criminal activities against the states neighbouring on the German Democratic Republic. The State Security Service has liquidated branch 904 of the (West German) Gehlen espionage organisation and arrested Van Ackern, alias Bruck, the head of this branch. The task of this branch was to conduct military and economic espionage against the Polish People's Republic. The agents of this centre were equipped with miniature American radios and special cameras. Benedikt Szuminski, for many years an agent of the American secret service, was arrested in the attempt to cross the German Democratic Republic on his way from West Berlin to Poland. He was armed and equipped with poison, a frog-man outfit, forged papers of the German Democratic Republic and Poland, and large sums of money in marks and zlotys.

"The Cabinet of the German Democratic Republic draws the attention of all working people and the entire population to the fact that the American and British secret services in West Berlin, together with the Gehlen espionage organisation, have stepped up their activities following the ratification of the Paris Agreements, with the aim of preparing war against the German Democratic Republic, the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

"The criminal activities of the espionage and sabotage organisations in West Berlin cause serious losses to the population, and menace the security of the German Democratic Republic. This cannot go unanswered.

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic demands the immediate closing of espionage and sabotage organisations in West Berlin, which lies in the centre of the territory of the German Democratic Republic.

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic will take all necessary steps to protect the achievements of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia, and the life, health and property of the people from the criminal attacks of the imperialist agents. We are convinced that all citizens of our Republic will support these measures, and we call upon the working class, the working peasants, the intelligentsia and the entire population of the German Democratic Republik to be more vigilant, so that no spy, no diversionist, no saboteur and no terrorist may escape his just punishment. Those who break off in time their connection with the imperialist agencies and surrender voluntarily to the organs of State Security will be allowed to go free, or receive reduced sentences.

"The utilisation of West Berlin by various espionage and sabotage organisations directed against the German Democratic Republic produces a state of tension in Berlin which must lead to undesirable consequences and to particular difficulties for the people of West Berlin.

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic calls on the people of West Berlin to take action against the espionage and sabotage centres, and to demand their immediate closing.

"The fact that the State Security organisation, with the help of the population, have so quickly liquidated these important bases of the imperialist secret services in the German Democratic Republic proves once again that the criminal plans of the imperialists are doomed to failure. All those who are in the service of these anti-popular organisations must realise that they will not avoid just punishment."

THIS WAR CRIMINAL "NEVER HARMED ANYONE"

Here is an extract from a leading article published on April 21st 1955 in the West Berlin right-wing daily newspaper "Tagesspiegel", a paper which receives a large U.S. subsidy. The leading article is signed by editor Karl Silex, formerly a leading nazi propagandist:

"On April 24th, next Sunday, Grand Admiral Erich Raeder will celebrate his 79th birthday in Spandau Prison. For ten years a man has been robbed of his freedom, a man who in his whole life never did anything to harm anyone... We as Germans must ask the four occupation powers who has an interest in prolonging the martyrdom of a man of nearly eighty, a man whose unblemished character was not even attacked in the Nuremberg trials."

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At the Nuremberg Trial a joint board of British, French, U.S. and Soviet judges found Erich Raeder guilty of (a) conspiracy to wage aggressive war; (b) crimes against peace; (c) war crimes. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. The International Tribunal, in sentencing Raeder, stated: "The most serious charge against Raeder is that he carried out unrestricted naval warfare, including warfare on neutrals... Raeder admits that he passed the order to shoot Allied POW's down through his chain of command, and did not object to Hitler about it."

And the West Berlin "Tagesspiegel" hails Raeder as a "martyr" and a man who never harmed anyone.

"I seem to recognise the face"
("Combat," Paris)

"ALL QUIET" AUTHOR CENSORED

West Germans Blue-Pencil Anti-Nazi Book

When the nazis came to power in 1933 they burnt the books of Erich Maria Remarque, anti-militarist author who became world-famous in 1929 with his book "All Quiet on the Western Front."

In West Germany today the neo-nazis have not yet reached the stage where they can burn Remarque's books. They simply emasculate them by cutting out the anti-nazi passages.

This is clearly shown by a study of Remarque's latest book "A Time to Love and a Time to Die." A comparison of the English edition, published in London in 1954 by the firm of Hutchinson, price 12/6, and the West German edition, published in Cologne by the firm of Kiepenheuer & Witsch in 1954, price 14.80 marks, reveals a total of over 30 long and short excisions in the German edition.

And these excisions are not made for reasons of space: every single one of the sentence and paragraphs cut out deals with nazi crimes.

Here we give some quotations from the English edition of the book. The words and sentences printed in black type are the words and sentences which have been censored out of the West German edition. The figures in brackets following the quotations give the page number in the English and West German editions of the book:

A German soldier reflects:

"For the worms of Europe, Asia and Africa we have been the Golden Age. We have turned over to them armies of corpses. **Not only soldiers' flesh — women's flesh, too, and children's flesh and the soft bomb-torn flesh of the aged. Plenty of all.** In the sagas of the worms we will be for generations the kindly gods of superfluity." (English p. 29. German p. 31.)

A nazi fanatic shoots a Russian civilian:

"Steinbrenner wore a satisfied expression. No one else had aimed at her. **She had been shot in the stomach. Steinbrenner was a good marksman.**" (English p. 21. German p. 21.)

A nazi fanatic has been boasting of his deeds:

"They crawled into the cellar. Steinbrenner spread out his blanket and arranged himself on his bunk. **Graeber looked at him. This twenty-year-old had killed more men than a dozen old soldiers together. Not in battle; behind the front and in concentration camps. He had boasted of it more than once and was proud of having been especially sharp.**" (English p. 47. German p. 53.)

A Wehrmacht officer warns soldiers going on leave:

"Care of the troops was first class and their spirit excellent. Once more: to divulge the names of places or the position of troops was high treason. Alarmism also. **The Gestapo was on the alert everywhere. Everywhere. The officer paused.**" (English p. 61. German p. 69.)

A German civilian grave digger is talking after an air raid:

"We work here as hard as we can... The procedure here is out of date in this age... **The only institutions that are really modern in every respect are the concentration camps. They can dispose of hundreds of corpses a day. All the newest methods. But of course they use a crematorium and that's out of the question for us —**" (English p. 115. German p. 135.)

A Storm Troop officer is recalling stories told by an SS man:

"Alfons puffed at a dead cigar he had lighted while Heini was recounting his further Russian exploits. In his excitement he had let it go out. **'First a layer of wood and then a layer of people, and each layer having to haul its own wood and then lie down on it and be shot in the back of the head** — that's something, eh?'

'Yes, that's something.'

'And the women! Can you imagine what went on with them!'

'Yes, well enough. Would you like to have been there?'

'With the women?'

'No, with the others. At the burning pyre and the Christmas trees covered with hanged men and the mass machine-gunnings'." (English p. 148. German p. 177.)

A front-line soldier on leave meets a nazi woman fanatic:

"Graeber stared at the unshakable Party warrior. Why do I stand here and justify myself in the eyes of this woman? he thought. I ought to shoot her down — **just as her husband, who is probably in the S. D. is shooting down Russian kulaks in order to gain that notorious Lebensraum for his Fuehrer.**" (English p. 204. German p. 244.)

A front-line soldier reflects after an air-raid on a German city:

"He had seen more dead children than these — he had seen them everywhere, in France, in Holland, in Poland, in Africa, in Russia, and all had mothers who wept for them, not the Germans alone — **if they still could weep and had not already been liquidated by the SS.**" (English p. 245. German p. 290.)

A soldier asks a young nazi about his record:

"'Have you rooted out many Jews?'

Steinbrenner grinned. 'If you could see my conduct records you wouldn't have to ask. Those were the times!' 'He bent over confidentially towards Graeber. 'I've put in for a transfer. Back to an SS division. There's more going on there. And you've got better chances. Everything's on a bigger scale. No boring court-martials for every lousy Russian. They get rid of them in batches. Not long ago three hundred Polish and Russian traitors in one afternoon. Six men got the Distinguished Service Cross for that. Here all that turns up is a few measly guerrillas — you don't get any decorations for that. We haven't had more than half a dozen since you left. In the clean-up battalions and in the SS Security Service they get hundreds and hundreds. A man can get ahead there!'"

(English p. 313. German p. 372.)

A German soldier revolts against nazism:

"He walked back to the place where Steinbrenner lay. 'Murderer' he said, and did not know whom he meant. He stared at Steinbrenner. He felt nothing. **'Murderer' he said once more, and meant Steinbrenner and himself and countless others.**" (English p. 336. German p. 398.)

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Apart from this careful deletion of nearly all indications that the nazi armies committed all varieties of war crimes, a whole series of cuts have

been made in the West German version of the book which change the character of several of the main figures. Apart from the main character, Graeber, there are three other members of the Wehrmacht treated in some detail.

First there is the soldier Immermann, a sympathetically presented figure. In the English version of the book it is made quite clear that Immermann is a former Communist, who has by no means abandoned his ideals. (See English version p. 10 et seq.) In the West German version this passage and other similar references are completely deleted (German p. 8), and a completely new sentence is inserted in which Immermann states that he was formerly a member of the Social Democratic Party (German p. 24). Obviously the West German publishers do not like presenting a Communist in a sympathetic light.

A second soldier, called Hirschland in the English version and Hirschmann in the German version, has a certain proportion of Jewish blood. This is repeatedly mentioned in the English version (p. 12 et seq.), and unequivocal anti-semitic taunting by a nazi fanatic is several times quoted. All mention of Hirschland-Hirschmann's Jewish ancestry is deleted in the West German version. Not only this, but five whole pages of text (English p. 207—210 and 313—314) dealing with his family at home in Germany simply do not appear in the West German version.

And finally there is the case of the soldier Steinbrenner, an extremely unpleasant character. In the English version it is made quite plain who he is:

"Steinbrenner came from the SS. He possessed the golden insignia of the Hitler Youth. Now he belonged to the company, but everyone knew he was an informer and a Gestapo spy" (English p. 11.)

This key sentence of characterisation and every other reference to Steinbrenner's political affiliations and his background as a concentration camp guard is deleted from the West German version of the book.

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The glaring differences between the West German version of the book and the English, Danish and other non-German translations, was first noted in Scandinavia last autumn. The Danish newspaper "Information" thereupon charged that a pro-nazi West German censorship was at work.

This Danish charge led the right-wing West German newspaper "Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung" to ask the West German publishing house Kiepenheuer & Witsch for an explanation. The paper received a letter from publisher Dr. Joseph C. Witsch, which was printed in the "Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung" on October 19th 1954. This letter stated in part:

"We naturally checked the manuscript very closely, particularly with regard to a true reproduction of the milieu, the correct titles, and the correctness of the political values. In some places we have corrected exaggerations, in the question of fear, for example . . ."

So reports of the mass murders committed by the nazis are today regarded by a leading West German publishing house as "exaggerations", which have to be corrected. It would be interesting to know whether Erich Maria Remarque intends to take legal action in this case.

I SAW WEST GERMANY'S NEW CONCENTRATION CAMP

by Dr. Gerhard Dengler

On these cold spring days the vast grey moor stretches out in unbroken monotony. Only the church tower of Meppen rises up in the distance and on clear days one can make out the occasional mast of an oil boring tower.

Here on the moor huddles a cluster of low wooden barracks surrounded by two high barbed wire fences. Close by, the remains of a neglected cemetery are still to be seen. Here lie the bodies of 40,000 Soviet prisoners of war and forced labourers who had been imprisoned by Hitler in the Gross Hesepe slave camp and then worked to death, the people of Meppen will tell you.

Only fifteen kilometres away, on the same Emsland Moor, was Hitler's notorious Boergermoor concentration camp, where honest antifascists — Social Democrats, Communists, clergymen and other patriots — were forced to work like slaves, persecuted and tortured to death. But these men never gave up hope that the gates would one day open — they knew that the only way to bring democracy to Germany was to uproot German imperialism.

In 1945 the great day of liberation came, but the roots of fascism were destroyed only in the eastern part of Germany. In West Germany, the larger part of the country, the occupation forces, in collaboration with German imperialists, prevented the "peat bog soldiers" from fulfilling the oaths they had made during their years in concentration camp. So today, ten years after liberation, peat bog soldiers are again marching on Emsland Moor.

It is about five o'clock in the evening. A train of nearly 200 men approaches the camp across the flat, dark moor. They are dressed in blue convict suits on which the initials "JV" stand out clearly. "JV" stands for "Justizverwaltung" (Judicial Administration), but the prisoners translate it as "irrtuemlich verurteilt" (falsely condemned). You can see from their faces that many of them are not used to such hard labour. In order to reach the daily output of 14 cubic metres, a man must turn over between 18 and 20 cubic metres of heavy wet peat with the shovel, and this is a back-breaking job for men who are not used to manual labour.

There is no shelter on the moor against the driving rain, or against the merciless sun beating down in summer.

Some of these young men look familiar to us. They look exhausted, almost old; but their eyes are clear and shining with unbroken determination. Where have we seen these faces before? Perhaps at the World Youth Festival in Berlin, or at the Youth Congress in Essen, where the young patriot Philipp Mueller was shot by Adenauer's men, or at the Congress of Young West German Trade Unionists in Dusseldorf, where it was resolved to resist recruiting to the utmost.

I saw them in the dock at Lueneburg, when they stood trial on Adenauer's orders for the "formation of secret societies and preparation for high treason". They were tried and sentenced simply because they had

resisted with all the enthusiasm of youth the threat of conscription to a new Wehrmacht as a result of the Paris Agreements, because they put the unity and peace of their fatherland before the doubtful honour of being shot somewhere in the world, serving in the NATO army.

But they are soldiers now — peat bog soldiers — just as their fathers and brothers, comrades and friends had once been peat bog soldiers under Hitler. This is not a fight with guns and tanks; it is a struggle of will and endurance, a fight for the unity and freedom of the German nation, in the knowledge that Adenauer can no more put the clock back than Hitler could.

Our comrade Herbert Beyer marched in this column for many months. He had been sentenced with his friend Reichel by the West German Supreme Court in Karlsruhe for "preparation for high treason", because he had distributed the "Programme for the National Reunification of Germany" — the legal programme of the legal Communist Party.

This trial was a link in the chain of "evidence" being prepared against the Communist Party. The condemnation of the Programme for the National Reunification of Germany was intended to provide the evidence necessary for banning the Communist Party as unconstitutional. The Adenauer government calculated that a party whose programme had been ruled treasonable must of course be unconstitutional.

The peat bog soldiers are marching past us again today, into the Gross Hesepe concentration camp, which lies only fifteen kilometres away from the former Nazi concentration camp of Boergermoor. The Communist Party stands on trial again today, and the West German authorities plan to ban it, just as it was banned in 1933. Has time stood still? Is it only the names which have changed? Of course not.

The power of German imperialism has been broken in one third of Germany; in the German Democratic Republic the former peat bog soldiers have taken the power into their hands and know how to use it in the service of peace and unity.

Behind them stands an organised world peace front of 800 million people. History strides forward and no new deportations to the moor or attempts to ban the Communist Party can hold it back.

(From "Neues Deutschland", East Berlin)

A MOUNTAIN HOLIDAY

by Joan Becker

The Social Insurance Service sends about 100,000 children to seaside and mountain resorts each year—about 15,000 for special treatment, about 16,000 for convalescent cures and between 60,000 and 70,000 for preventive cures. (This does not include TB cures in sanatoria.) Holidays vary in length from three to six weeks and cost parents nothing, as all expenses are paid out of social insurance funds.

Children sent on 3-week preventive cures are mainly picked out during medical inspections in schools and kindergartens; they may be run-down or under weight, but not seriously ill. If the class teacher feels that the child in question can catch up on school work again without much trouble, he can go away during term-time; otherwise it is arranged as far as possible to fit in with school holidays.

My little daugther Josephine went on one of these three weeks' preventive holidays. The school doctor decided she was under weight and her teacher agreed that she could go during term-time, so after being weighed and measured on the previous day, she set off by bus with 64 other little Berlin school-girls, in charge of Red Cross nurses. They arrived at the holiday home in Alexisbad, a beautiful little resort in the Harz mountains, early in the evening after an eight hours' trip.

The home was formerly a small hotel, a pleasant building with wide verandah and a wonderful view over the snow-clad mountains, charming dining and sitting-rooms, play-room and library, bathrooms and bedrooms for two, four and five beds.

The weather was wonderful during the whole three weeks, with snow and brilliant sun-shine. They had plenty of sleep—from eight in the evening to eight in the morning, and two hours every afternoon except Sunday. Food was plain but good; breakfast with porridge, bread and butter or dripping and sausage, cheese, and jam; for lunch, soup, meat and vegetables and pudding or stewed fruit; rolls and jam, or cake on Sunday with afternoon coffee, and sandwiches or hot sausage with rolls for supper. Josephine's letters contained many unflattering remarks about the food, such as "We're not allowed to leave any fat on our plates", "the vegetables are too salty" or "there is fat in the soup", but she put on so much weight that there cannot have been much the matter.

After breakfast the children spent a long morning outside, climbing and sleigh-riding, but they did not attempt any skiing. When they got up from afternoon rest they played for an hour outside, then drank coffee and wrote letters, played indoor games, learnt folk dances and mountain songs with yodelling choruses. They went to the cinema in the village once a week too.

They got back to Berlin after the long ride singing cheerfully but looking somewhat tired and grubby, and Josephine's first remark was: "Mummie, Berlin looks so dirty after the mountains!"

We went to see the school doctor again a day or so later, and Josephine had put on over 6 pounds during that short time. She has had no trouble catching up with her school work either.

"Learn from Hitler" — Morrison

West Germany should learn from Hitler and Goebbels, right-wing British Labour Party leader Herbert Morrison told an appreciative German audience at a lecture arranged in West Berlin on April 12th by the American-financed "Congress for Cultural Freedom".

Here is an extract from the report of the lecture printed on April 14th by West Berlin right-wing newspaper "Der Tagesspiegel":

"Morrison stated that he had always had the impression that German democracy had had too little colour, pomp and ceremony. It was a mistake to neglect such outward trappings, since they could keep alive public interest in democratic processes. 'Rogues like Hitler and Goebbels knew that. Cannot you take over some of the things which were so effective under Hitler? I do not know if you can do this, but I think you should try.'"

GERMAN DEMOCRACY'S REAL ENEMIES

by Dr. Friedrich Karl Kaul

(On these pages we print extracts from a speech made to the West German Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe on March 24th by Dr. Friedrich Kaul, one of the lawyers defending the Communist Party of Germany in the case brought by the West German Government in an attempt to ban the party.)

I have to bring evidence to support the claim of the Communist Party that a small but economically very powerful and clearly defined group holds the actual state power in its hands. This is what I have to establish in order to prove the falsity of the allegations made by the Federal Government.

I request the court to call the following:

1. **Karl Atzendorf,** factory owner and member of the Free German Party, to give evidence that he has held the following positions since 1945:

Owner of the Rheinische Moebelwerke, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Drahtwerke Schmitt, Chairman of the Wood Industry Association (Union of Middle Rhine Employers' Association), member of the German Wood Industry Board, Director of the North German Wood Trades Cooperative; and that, at the same time, as member of the Federal Parliament, he is a member of the War Compensations Committee, the Economic Policy Committee, the Committee dealing with Article 15 of the Constitution (Article 15 is concerned with the possibility of nationalizing land, mineral resources and means of production after compensation of owners), the Labour Committee and the Social Policy Committee.

2. **Fritz Berendsen,** chartered accountant and member of the Christian Democratic Union, to give evidence that he holds a leading executive position in the Kloeckner Concern in Duisburg, and that he is at the same time member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Federal Parliament, of the Committees for Questions of European Security, for Foreign Trade and for Transport.

3. **Prince Otto von Bismarck,** Friedrichsruh, to give evidence that he is part owner of the Banking House of Schacht und Ludwig, Aumuehle, and at the same time, as member of the Federal Parliament, that he is a member of the Federal Committees for Foreign Affairs, for All-German and Berlin Questions, and a deputy delegate to the Consultative Committee of the Council of Europe.

4. **Martin Blank,** member of the Free German Party for Oberhausen, to give evidence that he is director of the Gute Hoffnung Foundry Central Administration in Oberhausen, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Gerling Concern, and that he is at the same time a member of the Budget Committee of the Federal Parliament, of the Committee for European Security and the Standing Orders Committee.

5. **Dr. Gerhard Bucerius,** to give evidence that he is Managing Director of Zeit Publishing Company, E. Schmitt & Co. in Hamburg, Member of the Board of Directors of the Ruberiodwerke in Hamburg and of the Advisory Committee of the German Sleeping and Dining-Car Company, and at the same time, as Member of the Federal Parliament, Member of the Economic Policy Committee, Transport Committee, Committee for All-German and Berlin Questions, the Arbitration Committee dealing with Article 77 of the Constitution (for settlement of differences arising between Federal Council and Federal Parliament which do not directly affect the Lands), and advisor on the development of industry in West Berlin.

6. **Josef Gockeln,** Dusseldorf, to give evidence that he is deputy chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rheinische Roehrenwerke AG, Muehlheim/Ruhr, member of the Board of Directors of the Bankverein Westdeutschland AG, Dusseldorf, of the Rheinische Bahngesellschaft AG, Dusseldorf, and at the same time member of the Committee for the Protection of the Constitution of the Federal Parliamentary Committee.

7. **Dr. Fritz Hellwig,** to give evidence that he is Director of the German Industrial Institute in Cologne, Managing Director of the German Industrial Publishers' Association, and at the same time member of the following parliamentary committees; the Economic Policy, Special Problems and Arbitration Committees, and deputy delegate to the Advisory Committee of the Council of Europe.

8. **Count Henckel von Donnersmarck,** to give evidence that he is a member of the Budget Committee of the Federal Parliament.

9. **Ex-Vice-Admiral Heye,** to give evidence that he is a member of the Parliamentary Committees for Foreign Affairs, for European Security, for Home Administration and for War Victims and Returned Soldiers.

10. **Dr. Heinrich Lindenberg,** attorney, to give evidence that he is chairman of the board of directors of the Wintershall Mining Syndicate, Celle, syndic of the Elwerath mines, Hannover and of the Braunkohle-Benzin Company, Berlin, and at the same time member of the Parliamentary Committees for Law and Constitutional Law, for Economic Policy and for Money and Credit.

11. **Robert Margulies,** owner of the grain import firm of Robert Margulies, to give evidence that he is President of the Mannheim Products Stock Market, Chairman of the Central Association of South German Food Importers, Chairman of the Central Association of German Grain, Fodder and Manure Trade, member of the Presidium of the German Wholesale and Foreign Trade Association, advisor to the Chamber of Industry and Trade, and at the same time member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Finance and Tax Committee of the Federal Parliament.

12. **Karl Mueller,** agricultural expert, to give evidence that he is a member of the Federal Parliamentary Committees for Foreign Trade, and for Food, Agriculture and Forestry.

13. **Franz Josef Mueser,** Coal Mines Director in Bochum, to give evidence that he is a member of the board of Directors of the Bochum Cast Steel Works, of the Carolinenglück Mines, Graf Moltke Mines, of the Rhine-Westphalian Housing Company and of the West German Housing Company in Essen, that he is on the committee of the Employers' Association of the Iron and Metals Industry, deputy chairman of the Employers' Association of the Bochum Iron and Metals Industries, Chairman of the Legal Committee of the German Industrial and Trades Council, and that he is at the same time a member of the Economic Policy, Foreign Trade, and Food, Agriculture and Forestry Committees.

14. **Herr Naegel,** managing director of Brenninckmeyer, Hannover, to give evidence that he is chairman of the Retail Trade Association of

Lower Saxony and of the Trade Committee of the German Industrial and Trades Council, Vice-president of the Hannover Chamber of Industry and Trade, and chairman of the League of Catholic Employers, and at the same time Chairman of the Economic Policy Committee of the Federal Parliament.

15. Herr Neuburger, attorney, chairman of the board of directors of the Maschinenfabrik Lorenz, to give evidence that he is on the board of directors of the Gute Hoffnung Foundry, the Mannheim Steelworks, the Badische Bank, the Vereinigte Kesselwerke, and the German Linoleum Works, chairman of the administrative board of the firms of Gebrueder Passmann in Duisburg and Weise and Monski, and at the same time a member of the Finance Committee and of the Money and Credit Committee of the Federal Parliament.

16. Eduard Orth, to give evidence that he is part owner of the Pfaelzischen Moebelfabriken Speyer and Chairman of the Association of the Pfalz Wood Processing Industries, Neustadt.

President: ... What do you intend to prove by this list?

Dr. Kaul: I shall make that clear.

President: These are alleged representatives of monopoly capitalism?

Dr. Kaul: You unfortunately set up a prejudice beforehand when you say "alleged".

(Dr. Kaul stated that he would prove the contention stated at the outset by documentary evidence, of the connection not only of Federal Parliament members with industry, but also of members of the executive):

17. Secretary of State Westrick, Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs, also named by me as a witness, to give evidence that he has since 1945 held the following positions: chairman of the board of the Vereinigte Aluminiumwerke Bonn, chairman of the board of directors of the Hibernia Mining Company, of the Elektrowerke AG Berlin, Innwerke Munich, Rheinische Blattmetall, Rheinmetall Borsig, vice-chairman of the board of directors of the Bayrische Wasserwerke AG, Bayernwerke AG, Bayrische Landeselektrizitätsversorgung, member of the board of directors of the Henschel & Sohn Foundry in Ilsede, Metallgesellschaft AG Frankfurt, Sueddeutsche Kalkstickstoffwerke, member of the legal committee of the high commission of the Montan Union, and a curator of the Investment Assistance Board. This man is today Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

(Dr Kaul then added the following names to the list of those to be called as witnesses: Federal Ministers Gerhard Schroeder, (Interior), Neumayer (Justice), Seebohm (Communications), Balke (Post and Telegraph) and Dr. Hans Wellhausen, government councillor, to prove the contention that a great number of members of executive and legislative bodies have close economic ties with monopoly capital, big landed estates and militarism.)

I also present, as further documentation to illustrate the situation, a list of senior members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with details of their political activities between 1933 and 1945. There are only about 30 names, since a complete list with details of connections with so-called "state supporting" organisations between 1933 and 1945 would be far too long. Here we find everything again, from the SS to all the associations which formed the basis of the Hitler state. I hand this over, also in four copies, in order to bring further proof of the above contention.

* * *

Dr. Kaul's list included the following: **Dr. Werner von Bargen,** member of the NSDAP (Nazi Party) since May 1st, 1933 (now Minister for Special Duties in the Foreign Ministry); **Herr Behnke,** Chief Prosecutor of the Reichsdienst Strafhof under Hitler; Herr **Victor Damerau,** member of the NSDAP since 1937, District Nazi Party leader in Turkey; **Herr Wilhelm Damen,** member of the NSDAP since 1935, nazi political director in Prague; **Heinz Deter,** member of the NSDAP since 1933, Nazi cell leader; **Dr. Herbert Dittmann,** member of the NSDAP since December 1st, 1937 (now West German Consul General in Hongkong); Herr **Hasso von Etzdorf,** member of the NSDAP since June 1st, 1933, Sturmbannfuehrer in 1938, later Obersturmbannfuehrer of the SA; **Felix Gaerke,** SS Sturmfuehrer in the Reichssicherheitshauptamt, later in the SS Rasse und Siedlungshauptamt (Racial Experiments Office); **Anton Hellermann,** member of the NSDAP since 1936, Nazi District Group Leader in Kattowitz (Poland); **Herr Kamphoevener,** member of the NSDAP; **Herr Rupprecht Keller,** section leader in the Marine SA, 1936 member of the National Socialist Flying Corps; **Albert von Kessel,** National Socialist Motor Transport Corps; **Herr Werner Metzger,** member of the NSDAP since 1933, Nazi district group leader, Department Head in Karlsruhe, trained at the Nazi Party political school in Karlsruhe 1935; **Herr Christian Muench; Dr. Scheidt,** historian in Hitler's headquarters; **Herr Hans Schwarzmann,** member of the NSDAP since May 1st, 1933.

* * *

These names, drawn at random from one office, show the very strong Nazi influence in the executive, in exactly the way in which it is set forth in the basic defence document, page 9.

If there are any doubts about the above statements, they are official and I reserve the right to present the necessary evidence.

In conclusion, since you, Mr. President, used the word "alleged", I wish to draw attention to a statement made by Dr. von Meerkatz, in the stenographic report of the First West German Parliament, page 3614: "For we are surely agreed that we are at one with men like Mannstein, Kesselring and all those who are imprisoned in Landsberg and Werl." This statement simply emphasises the correctness of the statements made in the basic defence document ...

(Dr. Kaul quoted Articles 25 and 26 of the Bonn Constitution, which guarantee democratic liberties and the suppression of activities which lead to aggressive war, then proceeded to show by quotations that leading government personalities act directly contrary to these articles.)

Federal Minister Jakob Kaiser stated on March 2nd 1951:

"A true Europe can only be formed when German unity is achieved. This includes — I remind you of this — besides Germany also Austria, a part of Switzerland, the Saar district and Alsace-Lorraine."

On April 5th 1952 Federal Minister Waldemar Kraft made the following statement:

"There are fools in Germany who demand the restoration of the frontiers of 1937. They are willing to recognise—and that is why they are fools—the Sudetenland as a part of Czechoslovakia, and the Memel District, Danzig and the Polish Corridor as part of Poland ..."

In November 1953 Federal Minister Oberlaender made the following statement over the Bavarian radio:

"Herr Guggenheimer makes a mistake in saying that until recently I wanted colonies in the East. I still want them, because I believe we must have people behind the Iron Curtain to represent western civilisation."

BRITISH MINERS IN EAST GERMANY

by Jack Jones and Frank Whatley

(In Autumn 1954 a number of British trade union delegations visited the German Democratic Republic, amongst them delegations from various districts of the National Union of Mineworkers. Below we reprint extracts from the report of the mineworkers' delegation published in the March/April 1955 issue of "The Miner," magazine of the South Wales Area of the National Union of Mineworkers.)

The delegation consisted of Bert Wynn, secretary of the Derbyshire Area N.U.M. (National Union of Mineworkers), Cyril Sheppard, member of the Derbyshire N.U.M., a coalface worker, also a member of the Labour Party; Jack Jones, Miners' Agent, South Wales Area N.U.M. and Frank Whatley, South Wales Executive, coalface worker and Labour Party member.

First impressions (in Berlin) were of a city which still showed signs of many severe air raids. The bare walls of huge buildings still stood as grim reminders of the last war, whilst in other parts of the city many open spaces were all that was left in what was once a compact and crowded city. Yet we found behind these war-scarred ruins a great building scheme being carried out . . .

On Sunday November 17th we visited first the Roman Catholic church and a Protestant church, the main purpose being to see what, if any, were the restrictions placed on religious services. As far as we could judge there was no evidence of any restrictions . . .

The following days were spent in travelling to many areas and cities, Cottbus, Dresden, Zwickau, Halle, Leipzig and eventually back to Berlin.

In Dresden, as at all other places, we witnessed magnificent building schemes, not only of workers' flats and factories, but also the restoration of valuable artistic museums and of the famous Catholic church . . ,

We spent some time at a large open-cast site where brown coal was mined. Quite a fair proportion of the workers were women and young girls. These we met and questioned as they were leaving their work. They appeared to be satisfied with their conditions.

The length of the working day was eight hours and the rate of pay was equal to that of men. Here it may be stated that this was the principle throughout the Republic. Women have equality with men, carrying all the advantages and disadvantages except in one respect, that of extremely heavy work.

Women in heavy industry were by no means an innovation . . . We found a number of women who preferred industrial work to the menial task of being domestics or waitresses, and we experienced on a number of occasions a shortage of staff in restaurants and hotels.

We paid a visit to a briquetting plant and watched the whole process of transforming brown coal into briquettes. We were informed that the future economy of the Republic would be based on this process. Black coal has no real future because of the extremely limited reserves in East Germany. Both men and women were engaged as machine operators, fitters etc., and again were quite satisfied with their conditions.

We visited the canteens which were well laid out and well equipped, after which we attended some meetings of the joint consultative committee. It should be stated here that a number of workers could speak and understand a little English.

We were informed that all issues were closely examined at the factories and mines and at high level, and, if practical, were carried out, which was claimed to be of immense value in maintaining efficiency, giving both management and workers confidence in the business of running these concerns. General conditions and terms of contract are determined by law, but only after consultation with the unions from the lowest level to the highest. In this way the unions and government are closely integrated.

During our tour we descended a deep mine called the "Karl Liebknecht." It was a very deep mine, much deeper than ours, and employed 4,000 workpeople . . .

At the coal face we found that the ventilation was sluggish. The atmosphere hot and humid; men were quite naked. Whilst attention is given to safety and conditions of working, it has to be stressed that much of the unfavourable lay-out, particularly as to ventilation (shafts far apart), is the heritage of the past.

In contrast, pit winding and pit-bottom arrangements were outstanding; the speed of winding was terrific; cages of supplies were lowered without hindrance to normal winding, and on reaching the bottom of the shaft were automatically detached and automatically replaced by an empty cage which was immediately filled with full trams.

The faces visited were equipped with modern machinery, coal cutters, belt conveyors etc., and were supported with wooden supports throughout, there being a shortage of steel for this purpose.

. . . at every stage, the workers were in brigades with norms and bonuses according to the class of work, the highest being at the coal face. In many instances bonuses are funded, not so much to the individual as to the enterprise.

The average wage would be in the region of 600 marks per month, the equivalent of 5 pounds 10 shillings per week in English money. This, however, must be related to the cost of living which was comparatively low with the added advantage of an excellent social service and sports facilities because of the large trade union associated with the enterprise.

The transport arrangements were good with journeys of 100 trams at a time, the electric locomotives drawing their power from overhead wires. We saw women in charge of locomotives.

The roadways were on a level gradient and supported with steel arches. At the shaft were three cages; each had three decks, there being 12 trams in the pit at a time.

We met lodge committees in the various centres, where we exchanged views and criticisms. This culminated in a visit to the Miners' National Executive Committee in Halle, who gave us a full day and an evening. Women were represented on the executive, as indeed were the various sections which included youth, sports, education etc. . .

The system of education does not appear to be widely different from our own. Primary and secondary schools . . . were good and well lighted and the methods employed were fairly good. We spent some time at technical schools and colleges, which

were extremely well equipped with up-to-date machinery. They were well staffed and appeared to give every opportunity for the development of skill and science.

We cannot allow this opportunity to pass without mention of the educational facilities available at the mines and factories. We attended several such schools and workshops and were impressed with the school rooms and equipment. Attendance was voluntary and after working hours, and is often a prelude to the colleges and universities.

There is a system of scholarships and methods of financial aid for successful students, all of which points to an earnest endeavour to develop the skill and science of the Republic . . .

Everywhere we found a cry for peace, opposition to the rearmament of Western Germany, the cry for national reunification and for friendship with the peoples of the world.

There is a constant attack against disease in any form, and we were pleased to hear a very high tribute paid to the British medical profession, especially in the case of chest diseases. It was clearly stated that both in research and treatment we were by far the most advanced in the world, and a desire was expressed for the interchange of delegations between the Republic and Britain from members of the medical profession.

. . . It has been an opportunity to understand each other's problems and to promote the belief that workers of all nations could, by such visits, do much to solve each other's problems and thus help the cause of peace.

In our opinion the very least we can do is to respond to the appeal of the East German Miners' Union, that the South Wales Miners' Federation enter into a bond of friendship with them. We feel certain that this will find accord with an overwhelming majority of South Wales miners . . .

COMMUNIST BAN TRIAL

Proceedings adjourned again

Here is a summary of recent proceedings before the West German Constitutional Court at Karlsruhe, at which the West German Government is attempting to obtain a ban on the Communist Party (KPD). Summaries of previous proceedings were given in GERMAN REPORT dated December 10th and 24th 1954, March 4th and 18th and April 1st 1955.

Communist Ban Trial

March 29th: Defence lawyer Dr Gieseking asked for the protection of the court to be extended to him and the other defence lawyers, in face of the threats uttered by prosecution attorney Dr Dix. Dr Dix had threatened those of the defence lawyers who live in West Germany, and had declared those lawyers from the German Democratic Republic and the Saar "not competent in this case". The judges, after a 30 minute adjournment, expressed their "disapproval" of the remarks made by the prosecution attorney.

March 30th: The court decided, despite strong defence protests, that in future representatives of the Central Board of the KPD attending the trial would only be allowed to speak for ten minutes in replying to prosecution accusations. The court adjourned for an indefinite period. It was later announced that the ban trial would be resumed on May 3rd.

* * *

The West German Social Democratic Party fears that legal precedents established by the ban trial against the Communist Party, now in progress in Karlsruhe, may at a later date be used against their party.

This was made clear in an article published on April 8th by "Vorwaerts", the official journal of the West German Social Democratic Party. The paper stated:

"As the result of an inquiry which we made in Karlsruhe we were informed that the decisions of the court denying the right of a political party to practice resistance 'were to be understood as applying solely to the ban case against the Communist Party'. This answer cannot be regarded as satisfactory. The general principle enunciated by Karlsruhe appears to us to be dangerous. It could be used only too easily by a power-hungry executive in order to get round constitutional guarantees by means of the speedy creation of political faits accompli."

Buchenwald Killer Released

SS Officer Martin Sommer, who murdered at least 67 prisoners in Buchenwald Concentration Camp during the nazi era, has been released from prison in West Germany on the grounds that his "health is endangered".

Sommer was a defence witness at the trial of Ilse Koch, the "beast of Buchenwald", and has himself never been brought to trial.

"Opposing Nazis Was a Crime" — West Berlin Court

In 1933, after Hitler came to power, the Berlin worker Wilhelm Netzel distributed some Communist leaflets. He was seized by Storm Troopers, beaten, sent to concentration camp, and finally sentenced to a long term of imprisonment on a charge of "preparing high treason".

He now lives in West Berlin, and claimed the compensation which has been legally granted there to victims of fascism. On July 28th 1954 the West Berlin "Kammergericht", which deals with such cases, refused him compensation. Ground for the refusal was that "the sentence of imprisonment was not imposed because of his conscientious opposition to the National Socialist regime, but because of a criminal act, namely the preparation of high treason." An appeal against this decision is now pending before the supreme Court in Karlsruhe, West Germany.

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THEY WENT EAST

West-East Settlers Tell Their Stories

When I set up a tailor's workshop in Lubeck at the end of the war I managed, after initial difficulties, to make a decent living for a time. But then the big factories got on their feet again; they could get credit, and they could produce and sell on a mass production basis much more cheaply than people like me. You may say the small tailor has his circle of old clients who prefer to buy from him. Yes, after a lot of running around he gets orders and fills them, but the trouble is he seldom gets paid in cash for them.

For instance, when I left my shop in Lubeck and came to the German Democratic Republic in January this year I had to leave a net profit of 6,000 marks behind, because the money was not in my hands. Bills to the value of 2,000 marks in all were left unpaid by three shops who went bankrupt, and I had fifteen cases pending against workers in the Lubeck blast furnace works alone who could not pay the installments on clothes bought from me. There is one bookkeeper in this foundry who does nothing but deal with debts incurred by workers buying on the installment plan.

Besides the high 4 per cent turnover tax, wages tax and income tax, I had an extra burden. As a so-called "refugee" from former East Prussia I was entitled to compensation for loss of savings and property during the war. I actually received compensation to the extent of 1500 marks, paid out yearly in sums of 500 marks each from 1952 to 1954, but since I had a business and was self-supporting, I had to pay 600 marks a year into the compensation fund to support other "refugees" — mainly former big landowners — who receive much larger sums in compensation. It was an annual joke when I went to fetch my 500 marks and then took them straight over to the finance department and paid them back into the compensation fund, after adding 100 marks out of my own pocket.

Adenauer has managed in this way to ruin the small handiworks businesses, for they cannot prosper on installment payments, court proceedings against debtors and bankrupts.

A week before I left Lubeck, a hundred and fifty year-old man's tailor's shop had to close down, and an average of 15 bankruptcies a week are announced in the "Lubecker Nachrichten".

All these things led me to come to the German Democratic Republic. I joined the Artisans' Cooperative in Stalinstadt and have been earning 500 marks a month, not including my share of the cooperative's profits. I pay 47 marks a month for my three-room flat here, whereas in Lubeck I paid 55 marks a month for two rooms, after paying key-money of 2,500 marks.

Edmund Zimdahl, tailor

* * *

I am a cow-hand and was for a long time unemployed in West Germany. I was continually answering advertisements in "Feld und Wald" (Field and Woods), but always without success. I once cycled 80 miles to answer an advertisement for a milker, but when I got there I found that 20 others had been there before me.

So I had to go on supporting my family on 40 marks' dole a month. Then a former landowner from West Prussia bought up the house in which we lived from the owner who had gone bankrupt. He wanted the whole house for himself, and he got us thrown out, although we had always paid our rent regularly. We were offered a windowless room in the cellar of a wooden barracks, for which we had to pay 15 marks a month rent. We tried everything, but could get no other accomodation.

At the end of last year, when we could not bear this existence any longer, we decided to go to relations in the German Democratic Republic and we have found a new home here in Parchim. I joined the agricultural cooperative and work as a milker here. With two others I have charge of 42 milking cows and 10 calves. I get 140 to 150 marks each fortnight for my work units and extra payments bring my monthly income up to 440 marks, not including annual payments in kind.

My wife and I will soon be able to buy a little stock for ourselves and we are glad we came. I also have the chance to learn here and to take a diploma in dairying.

Karl Resa, agricultural worker

* * *

I came from Hamburg to the railway repair works here in Stendal after a long period of unemployment. I used to work as a shop assistant, but lost my job without being told the reason. The Labour Exchange in Hamburg would have helped me to emigrate or to enlist in the Foreign Legion, but I certainly did not want to do that.

Months later I got a job as unskilled building worker, but this did not last long. One day the boss came round on an inspection and I had the bad luck to drop a pail of mortar just as he was passing. I was thrown out on the spot.

By this time I had had enough and I decided to come to the German Democratic Republic. I got a job here at once and am training to be a plumber.

People here really take trouble to help beginners. No foreman or manager in West Germany would dream of helping young people with their work in the way they do here. I am now earning 400 marks a month and can manage very well on it.

Above all, I am glad to have escaped recruitment, which is what waits round the corner for so many young people in West Germany when they lose their jobs.

Heinz Kals, railway worker

Alarming Report

"Elmshorn — We have received from Elmshorn a report which must alarm every trade unionist. Fascist rowdies there have staged a brutal attack on trade union secretary Alfred Schneider. Shouting 'Heil Hitler' the bandits attacked the trade union official and his wife on the public highway. Both of them were knocked down by a succession of punches."

"Unser Tag", Ludwigshafen, West Germany, April 10th 1955.

"I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT"

By Peter Edel

If someone had told me in 1945 that the man who denounced me to the Gestapo, the man responsible for having me sent to Auschwitz, would be able to publish his memoirs quite freely, I wouldn't have believed it.

But in the meantime we have got used to all sorts of things, so it is perhaps not surprising to find Dr. Julius Lippert in the ranks of the neo-fascist publicists in West Germany.

This Lippert, for it was he who denounced me, was an intimate friend of Hitler and Goebbels, editor of the nazi paper "Angriff", and later nazi Lord Mayor of Berlin. Early this year the West German publishing house "Druffel" announced that it would soon be bringing out a book with the cynical title "Erlebnisse und Bemerkungen eines deutschen Kriegsverbrechers" (Experiences and Remarks of a German War Criminal).

Lippert was sentenced to eight years imprisonment for war crimes in Belgium in 1945, but was released as the result of West German pressure before he had served his full sentence, and he now apparently hopes to make money from his reminiscences.

The sort of "remarks" which we can expect from this anti-semitic propagandist can be judged from some of his utterances in the past. Speaking in the Berlin Sport Palast in 1933, for instance, Lippert stated:

"A Jew is for me not a human being ... Swollen lips, greedy eyes ... one should not insult any animal by comparing it to a Jew."

In 1932, before Hitler had come to power, Lippert wrote in the nazi newspaper "Angriff":

"We must regard the Hebrews from the point of view of preventive national hygiene. Our work may be compared to that of a delousing expert. He deals with bugs and other parasites, and race-conscious social hygienists deal with Jews."

In 1941 Lippert published a book entitled "Im Strom der Zeit" (In the River of the Times) in which he described the great scientist Albert Einstein in these words:

"He resembles a Galician carpet-peddler, who has not used water or soap for a year."

I shall refrain from giving further samples of his revolting utterances, which remind every decent German of the whole register of nazi crimes.

But I have three questions to put to the inhabitants of West Germany. There are people there, including Jews, who still believe that they are living in a civilised state, and who refuse to see that notorious criminals of this nature are not only tolerated by the West German authorities in Bonn, but are even protected and popularised.

How long will these people continue to be frightened by the spectre of Communism, and to believe Adenauer's hypocritical statement "There is no fascism and no anti-Semitism in West Germany"?

How long will they continue to overlook the very real danger presented by revived fascism?

Are they going to remain passive until thousands of young Germans are once again trained by the Lipperts in racial hatred and liquidation ideology, and until they are wearing once again the steel helmets decorated with the SS symbol?

If you look at Lippert, you will see what Adenauer and his accomplices intend the future of Germany to be. Nobody will be able to say in future that he had not been warned, and that he knew nothing about it.

Presenting a West German Diplomat:
HE WAS NAZI "WHITE BOOK" AUTHOR

Dr Heinz Truetzschler von Falkenstein is a professional diplomat. He entered the nazi Foreign Ministry in 1934, one year after Hitler came to power, with the rank of attache. He joined the nazi party in 1940, when he thought nazi Germany was sure to win.

During the entire course of the war Dr Truetzschler von Falkenstein, who had been promoted to the rank of embassy counseller, drew up the official Foreign Ministry Propaganda Notes issued to all nazi diplomatic missions. He also helped to draw up nazi propaganda "White Books".

In 1944 nazi Foreign Minister Ribbentrop appointed him to the post of chairman of the "European Committee" of the Foreign Ministry. This committee was charged with drafting the plans for the "new European order after the end of the war".

After the war Dr Truetzschler von Falkenstein was automatically arrested by the Americans as a "dangerous nazi". Two years later he was released.

As soon as the West German Republic was formed in September 1949 he joined the Foreign Ministry again.

Following parliamentary attacks on the renazification of the Foreign Ministry, he was investigated by a West German Parliamentary Commission.

The Commission decided that Dr Truetzschler von Falkenstein should not be used outside Germany, but had no objection to his further employment in an important situation in the Foreign Ministry. The official commission report stated:

"... it is recommended that for the meantime Dr Truetzschler von Falkenstein should not be utilised in foreign countries. It would damage the reputation of the (West German) Federal Republic in foreign countries if it used there the services of a man who had played a leading part in the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry throughout the whole course of the war in drafting war propaganda."

A few months after this report, this old nazi was promoted to the rank of Ministerial Director, and his name was put forward as West German Ambassador to Yugoslavia. The Yugoslav Government however indicated that it was not interested in receiving such a diplomat.

At the beginning of April 1955, Dr Heinz Truetzschler von Falkenstein was appointed head of the cultural department of the West German Foreign Ministry.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

In all the mass of propaganda put about in the western world for the rearmament of West Germany, there is one argument which recurs again and again: "West Germany has to be rearmed because East Germany already has an army."

It may be quite a good idea, in face of this, to have a look at the facts as they were recently presented by a hostile observer. The Honourable Terence Prittie, West German correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" can by no stretch of the imagination be described as a "crypto-Communist", or "fellow-traveller", or whatever the fashionable phrase may be these days. In the past I have frequently had to take issue with him in these columns because of his extremely prejudiced reporting of East German events.

Arms Race?

But this only makes what he has to say about the "East German Army" more interesting. Mr Prittie gave a talk in the Third Programme of the BBC at the end of March, reprinted in "The Listener" dated March 31st. The talk was entitled "The Coming Arms Race in Germany", and here are some of the things he had to say:

"The para-military People's Police was first organised into combat-teams or Bereitschaften, given rifles and machine-guns and a limited amount of motor-transport. **There is no evidence that the Russians wanted to convert these units into an army until the Western Powers began to take steps to secure West German divisions.**

"Reorganisation went on, and by last year the Bereitschaften had been converted into an army... **It was not the sort of striking force for an aggressive war in Europe...** There is no East German arms industry."

Readers may like to note these quotations.

New Situation

Of course the ratification of the Paris Agreements, and the building in West Germany of a new Wehrmacht under the old nazi generals has created a new situation, in which it has become necessary to take counter-steps in East Germany. The workers in the German Democratic Republic who now for the first time own the factories in which they work do not intend to hand them back to Krupp, Thyssen and IG Farben, and the peasants who now have their own farms do not intend to hand the land back to the Junkers.

So now, regretfully but with determination, steps have to be taken in the German Democratic Republic to frustrate the militarists and the nazis. What will these steps be? The first have already been taken. Young people aged between 18 and 22 have been called upon to volunteer for two year's service in the Mobile Police, where they will learn to defend their factories and their land. In addition, militia groups are being formed in the factories themselves, composed of older workers.

They are determined to defend their land and their achievements if need be. But they would much sooner stay at work building a better life, and they will be able to do just that if public opinion in Germany and abroad forces a cancellation of the Paris Agreements, and Four Power agreement on the peaceful reunification of Germany.

Just incidentally, there is another passage of interest in the broadcast talk by Terence Prittie which I have quoted above. Here it is:

"An East German clergyman who recently visited the (West German) Federal Republic was asked if he wanted to see the ailing East German economy and its perverted social system scrapped, if and when Germany were reunified. His answer was: 'Certainly not. Our system may be bad, but at least it has an intelligible idea behind it. In the west there is no idea, only the eternal pursuit of material gain. We can make at least as big a contribution to a united Germany as the Federal Republic can'."

Nazi Biography

In previous numbers of GERMAN REPORT we have presented many members of the West German parliament who formerly played a prominent part in the nazi movement. Here is another short biography:

Georg Koerner represents the BHE (Refugee Party) in the West German Parliament. In his official biography, published in the West German Parliamentary Handbook he makes no mention of his activities during the Hitler period, except to state that he was "war participant (France, Balkans), wounded."

The "Ö. T. V. Presse", organ of the West German Public Services and Transport Trade Union, disclosed in its February 1955 issue that Koerner was one of the nazis who in May 1933 broke into trade union offices, arrested trade union officials, and seized trade union funds.

Storm Troops

The magazine stated: "On May 2nd 1933... Storm Troops broke into the Berlin headquarters of the Public Works Trade Union, at No. 1 Michael-Kirch-Platz, and arrested the members of the Central Board of the union... Amongst them was a young man aged 26 in the smart uniform of a Nazi 'Amtsleiter'. And who was this lad, who had been chosen by Hitler to take over this trade union? It was Georg Koerner, today member of the (West German) Federal Parliament."

The paper states that from that date in 1933 until 1940 Georg Koerner was the leader of the "Public Works" section of the nazi Labour Front.

East German "Star"

The "star" of the new Paramount film "Rear Window" is a camera made in East Germany.

The film tells the story of a young reporter (James Stewart), tied to his wheel-chair with a broken leg, who amuses himself by watching, with the telescopic lens of his camera, the lives of the people in the apartment house opposite.

Stills from the film which have reached Berlin show that the camera which James Stewart uses is an "Exacta Varex", made by the nationally-owned Exacta Camera Factory in the German Democratic Republic.

The choice of this camera is a probably unintended compliment to the high quality of the 36 millimetre cameras and telephoto lenses turned out by the socialist industry of East Germany.

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